

REMARKS

The above-referenced patent application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action, dated November 3 2003, in which: claims 1-21 and 28-33 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Stracovsky and claims 22-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stracovsky in view of Bass;. Reconsideration of the above-referenced patent application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 7, 14, 22, and 28 have been amended. Therefore, claims 1-33 are pending in the application.

Claim objections

The Examiner has objected to claim 4 for the term either that does not have a second alternative. Consequently, the Applicant has amended the claim accordingly.

102 Rejection

The Examiner concedes that Stracovsky does not teach or disclose the step of arbitrating between the commands to determine priority of access to the memory bus. Consequently, the Applicant has amended the claims to include the arbitration. The Applicant will discuss the Bass rejection in the next paragraph.

103 rejection

- The Applicant does not understand the Examiner's position on round robin arbitration. Clearly, the Applicant has addressed round robin arbitration in the background of our pending patent application. The Applicant does not incorporate round robin arbitration to assure each command gets its fair share of system resources (page 3 of application). In contrast, Applicant teaches an arbitration between commands based on status information of the plurality of memory banks. Obviously, Bass teaches away from this concept since it incorporates round

robin arbitration to allow each command to get a fair share. Therefore, one can not combine Bass and Stracovsky to utilize as a 103 rejection since Bass teaches away from our claimed invention.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully asserted that all of the claims pending in this patent application, as amended, are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact the undersigned at (503) 712 8918. Reconsideration of this patent application and early allowance of all the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


Michael Nesheiwat
Registration # 47,819 Patent Attorney

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c/o Blakely, Sokoloff, Taylor & Zafman, LLP
12400 Wilshire Blvd., Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026
(503) 712-8918

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